SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, the silk sarees are more attractive. Therefore, I am referring to it.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, the hon. Member is getting attracted by ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am referring to the silk saree which has got a very good potential in the foreign markets. It is moving very fast in the foreign markets.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am wearing a cotton saree.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am referring to silk sarees only.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: What about silk shirtings?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I will come to it later.

Madam, the persons who are producing the silk sarees, the weavers in this country, are not getting sufficient quantity of silk. Moreover, the silk that is being produced in our country is not of good quality. Therefore, we have to resort to imports from China.

Madam, there is a technology available in China for producing a good quality of silk. Though we have expanded the area of cultivation of mulberry in the North-East region of our country, we are not getting the desired quantity of silk. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India will have a tie-up with China to import the technology from China so that the quality and quantiy of silk that will be produced in our country will be better.

श्री अशोक गहलोत : उपसभापति महोदया, हम इस पर विचार करेंगे । उन्होंने चायना के साथ टाई-अप करने की बात कही है । यह इनका नया प्रस्ताव है, इस पर हम विचार करेंगे । मैं पहले ही कह चुका हूं कि हमारी जो नेशनल सीरिकल्चर प्रोजेक्ट चल रही है उसमें काफी प्रगति हुई है और हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि उसमें हम क्वालिटी भी बढ़ा पाएंगे ।

चौधरी हरि सिंह : माननीया, आप जानती हैं कि हमारी देश की सिल्क बहुत अच्छी होती है और उसकी बड़ी मांग भी है । लेकिन उसकी खूबी के मुताबिक उसकी कीमत विदेशी बाजार में नहीं मिल पाती है । उसका विशेष कारण मेरी जानकारी में यह है कि हमारी जो सिल्क का मैनूफैक्चर होती है, उसकी जैसी साइनिंग चाहिए, जैसी चीन और जापान की होती है, वह नहीं हो पाती है । इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी यह जानना चाहता हूं कि वे ऐसी मशीन या ऐसे कौन से उपाय करने जा रहे हैं जिससे हमारी सिल्क में भी चमक हो, नयापन हो, जिससे मार्केट में उसके ज्यादा दाम मिल सकें ? इसके लिए आप क्या उपाय सोच रहे हैं ?

श्री अजीत जोगी : यह चमक-दमक का सवाल है ।

श्री अशोक गहलोत : माननीय महोदया, मैं समझता हूं कि हमारी सिल्क भी काफी अच्छी सिल्क मानी जाती है और काफी एक्सपोर्ट भी हो रहा है । उसके अलावा समय-समय पर जो इम्प्रूवमेंट करने की बात है, हम लोग करते रहते हैं । मुझे नहीं लगता कि हमारी क्वालिटी दूसरों से घटिया है ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 168.

*168. [*The questioner (Dr. Yelamanchili Sivaji) was absent.* For answer *vide* Col. 42 *infra.*]

Publication of "Census of Joint Stock Companies"

*169. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the publication 'Census of Joint Stock Companies" has been published for the year 1991;

(b) if not, which is the latest year of its publication; and

(c) whether the publication contains reference to and information about all the joint stock companies existing in India during that year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The publication titled, "Directory of Joint Stock Companies in India-1990" was published by the Department Compiling the data on companies registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and at work as on 31st March, 1990.

The first supplement to the Directory of Joint Stock Companies has also been brought out by this Department under the title "Registration and Liquidation of Joint Stock Companies in India-1991". This publication contains information regarding companies registered/liquidated and furnishes details such as type of ownership, registered office address, date of registration, business activity and authorised capital, during the period from 1-4-90 to 31.3.91.

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Madam Deputy Chairman, I am surprised at the reply given by the hon. Minister. My question is specific about the Census of joint stock companies whereas the hon. Minister has replied about the Directory of joint stock companies. There is a publication known as Census of joint stock companies published by the Reserve Bank of India. May I know from the Minister, what is the reason for the Company Affairs Department not being aware of this publication by the Reserve Bank of India? This is the only publication which gives the details about the joint stock companies in India.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Madam Deputy Chairman, so far as the Companies Act is concerned, section 20 stipulates that no name should be allowed to be registered when a similar name is already there. Keeping this provision in view, we maintain a directory of companies giving the details as are required for satisfying the provisions of section 20. so far as census of companies is concerned, I am not aware of the legal provision under which we are obliged to keep such a directory. So far as our purpose is concerned, that is served by the section cited.

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Madam, they may not be obliged to keep one. But that is the only publication on joint stock companies. Actually, there are about 1.1/2 lakh joint stock companies in the country. But the Census of Joint Stock Companies has reported the details of only about 30,000 companies. I wrote a letter to the Governor, Reserve Bank, that since this is a census it should be a hundred per cent report. What is the reason why a hundred per cent of the companies are not reported in this census? And, even if it is not obligatory on the part of the Company Affairs Department to take such a census under the Companies Act, will the department do something to see that all the companies are covered in this census?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: The data are available with the Reserve Bank. They derive the data from the returns filed by the various companies. We also collect data from the same returns . There is no other way of collecting data. The hon. Member's interest in data is well known. But so far as we are concerned, we publish a directory which is required by our department because we do not register the names of similar companies. The Reserve Bank has to keep the data required by it. Our function and that of the Reserve Bank are totally different from each other.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: The question must be addressed to the Finance Minister.

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Madam, my question has not been answered. The procedure may be different. But whenever a company is registered or whenever a

company is liquidated, it goes into the directory. But the directory does not consist of all the details of the companies like their profits and losses, etc. The census contains these. The directory is automatic, but the census is made. Will the department do something to see that most of the companies are covered in the census?

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Dr. Manmohan Singh can reply to that.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Madam, the hon. Member must know that so far as the Company Affairs Department is concerned, we keep track of all the companies on various aspects. We are keeping all the details regarding joint stock companies. But publishing the same type of book as the Reserve Bank publishes is not necessary.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, why has the Ministry admitted it? The question should have been referred to the Finance Ministry then.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Madam, there is a confusion. I would request the Minister to go into this matter. Dr. Jichkar's question is not answered. Census is a totally different thing and it, apparently, does not relate to this department.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Why was it admitted by the Ministry?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: The Company Affairs Department has all the details with regard to joint stock companies.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Madam, this question relates to the Finance Ministry and it has been wrongly addressed to this department. The Reserve Bank is under the Ministry of Finance. Mr. Jogi has rightly suggested that Dr. Manmohan Singh can answer this. But I am afraid Dr. Manmohan Singh may not be able to answer our relevant questions. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: We can give any detail with regard to about 2,43,000 companies working. If he wants any detail, I will be very happy to give it to the hon. Member. We have all the details with us.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: My supplementary is this. The Minister has recently taken over this department.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He was here before in this department.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: But, at that time, Company Affairs were not in this department.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Some affairs were there.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: She is suggesting some affairs.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Madam, I would like to have an assurance from the Minister. He is a lawyer and he will understand the matter. He should look into the whole gamut of the Companies Act and all these problems. Out of the about 1½ lakh companies, there are hardly about 20,000 companies with which the public may be concerned. Perhaps, recordification is going on. I do not know when that will take place. But, immediately, can the Minister help us by bringing to book the companies in which there are large-scale defaults, where the fixed deposits are not being paid, where the small man is harassed? In reply to the last question, the hon. Minister has said that they have launched 5800 prosecutions in a year. If you go through the details, you will notice from the list that 90 per cent of the prosecutions relate to late filing of returns, late holding of the meeting, which are all very minor matter. I want an assurance from the Minister that he will personally look into the whole gamut of Companies Act quickly, if not in this Session, in the next Session, so that the Companies Act is administered more rationally.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Madam, for the information of the House, I would like to say that so far as the Department of Company Affairs is concerned, it is an eluding department. Sometimes, it comes to the Ministry of Law, sometimes it goes to some other Ministry. (*Interruptions*). When P. Shiv Shanker Jit was the Minister, it was in his company. But, the Department of Company Affairs is now in our company. (*Interruptions*). It went out of our company for some time. It went to the Ministry of Industry. Now, we have been able to bring the Department back to our company. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, if you are in good company, that is good enough. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Madam, Mr. Kamal Morarka has made very valid suggestions. After going through the statistics, I came to know that the bulk of the prosecution is on technical grounds, non-filling of returns, etc. on small issues. Actually, we have already instructed the Department of Company Affairs to make a thorough probe into the affairs of the high profile companies. We are not really interested in doing a lot of work on these small companies. In fact, the job of the Department of Company Affairs is to do the vigilance work in respect of the high profile companies and the recent scam has alerted us. We have done some quick work on this. Our Department has perhaps done the quickest work. But the question is, after 1956, how much the corporate sector has developed and we must bring our laws in tune with the latest economical regime also. Therefore, we will use section 621 to the advantage of those companies which are innocent and we will instruct the Department of Company Affairs to dispose of all their cases either by compounding them or by way of discussion.

With regard to those companies which are defaulters in respect of cost audit, we are taking a serious view and we are pressing the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Commerce and other Ministries to prosecute them effectively because they are making undue profits and are taking undue advantage. That is why we want that this provision of cost audit should be made more effective. How far we succeed, we will see to it.

श्री चिमनभाई मेहता : माननीया उपसभापति महोदया, मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि जब हम मार्केट इकोनोमी की तरफ काफी ज़ोर से जा रहे हैं तब यह तो डिपार्टमेंट की बात हुई कि सेंसस फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री के अंडर है और आपके डिपार्टमेंट के पास डायरेक्टरी छापने का काम है । लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि जब हम मार्केट इकोनोमी क तरफ काफी ज़ोर से जा रहे हैं तो यह जो लगभग डेढ़ लाख कम्पनीज़ हैं इनके बारे में इनफॉरमेशन अच्छे ढंग से पब्लिश होनी चाहिए । इसलिए आप दोनों के बीच में कुछ कोआर्डिनेशन कर के क्या आप इसको रेगुलरली पब्लिश करवायेंगे ? मेरा इतना ही प्रश्न है ।

श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज : मैडम, आज के दिन 31-12-1991 तक 2,43,041 कम्पनीज़ एट वर्क हैं । इनके बारे में जितनी भी जानकारी कानून के मुताबिक कम्पनीज़ अफेयर्स डिपार्टमेंट के पास होनी चाहिये वह सब है । लेकिन जैसे आपने कहा कि कुछ नये डाटा की आजकल जरूरत पड़ जाती हैं और कुछ इटर्नल जानकारी चाहिये तो उसके लिए बदस्तूर हम इस बात पर विचार कर रहे हैं कि किस तरह से कम्पनीज़ ला को ज्यादा इफेक्टिव बनाए । एक रिपोर्ट पहले पेंडिंग है और उस पर विचार हो रहा है । सरकार जल्दी ही कोशिश करेगी कि कम्पनीज़ ला को अमेंड किया जाए ।

श्री चिमनभाई मेहता : दोनों कोआर्डिनेशन करके रेगुलर पब्लिकेशन करवाएं इन चीजों का (**व्यवधान**)

श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज : 10 साल के बाद आती है और 10 साल में छप जाती है (**व्यवधान**)